



# Sant Bani School Notes

Celebrating 36 years

March 2010

www.santbani.org

## Calendar of Events

2/1 - 3/5 Projects Period--  
**No school**

3/1 Applications for Financial  
Aid due in to Princeton

3/8 School back in session--  
project sharing

3/10 Projects Display and  
Parent Cafe

3/17 Parent Committee  
Meeting 6 p.m.

3/25 Lower Building  
Performance 7 p.m.

3/26 Staff Development  
Afternoon--  
**school out at noon**

3/27 Coffeehouse and Family  
Game Night 6-8 p.m.

## Family Writing Night Full of Sharing

On the evening of February 11, forty-five students, their siblings, parents and grandparents participated in the first Family Writing Night of the school year.

The event began with a free meal of pasta, bread, salad and juice prepared by teacher facilitators. When stomachs were full, minds were ready to compose on the night's theme of winter.

First grade teacher Hillary Martin read the photograph-filled picture book *Stranger in the Woods* to inspire winter memories, and then writers were given ten minutes to write on a winter memory or an idea that the story sparked. Sharing happened within the group of writers at each table, and later to the whole group.

At first many were timid about reading their work aloud, but as more people volunteered, hands of children and adults alike continued to rise. Co-founder of Family Writing Night, Kari Allen, commented that she had rarely seen that much sharing happen.

## Bring a Friend Week Lets High Schoolers Share Their School

During the week of February 15, high school students were encouraged to bring a friend (or several) to visit classes and see what a Sant Bani high school day is like.

The idea for this visiting week had been in the works since late last school year, when the Committee to Look at Enrollment Patterns (CLEP) began brainstorming ways to allow area high school students to see Sant Bani and what student life, faculty and classes are like.

Sant Bani students who brought a friend had to give the Administration notice that they would have a guest for a particular day. Guests could spend the day with their host students or, if they were in grades nine or ten, could visit classes not in their host's schedule, including ones taken by the eleventh and twelfth grades. This provided an idea of what academic life might be like, should guests be interested in applying to and attending Sant Bani.

Sant Bani students invited family members, fellow music students and students with whom they perform service. Visitors came from around the state, as well as from Massachusetts.

Another focus area for CLEP is spreading the word about what Sant Bani School is so that more members of the central New Hampshire community find out who we are and what we do "up on the hill."

Editor Jyoti Demian

*Sant Bani School Notes* is published monthly during the school year to share news of the school community. We are grateful for contributions from staff, friends and the Parent Committee.

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# Parent Committee News

by Emily Galvin

Greetings from the Parent Committee! We held our meeting a week earlier this month due to the grades 3-6 performances being held on our usual meeting date (the third Wednesday of the month). A change to the online calendar, as well as e-mail notification, went out to let everyone know about the date change. We heard from a few people that they aren't getting e-mails from Richard or via Listserv. If you are not receiving notices, please send an e-mail to Emily at galvinized2002@yahoo.com and we'll check your e-mail address against the list to be sure we have the correct contact information.

Below are the major events the Parent Committee has planned for the rest of the year.

## **Coffeehouse and Family Game Night**

The Parent Committee is excited to FINALLY host another get-together event scheduled for everyone! We've tried twice this year, and due to bad weather and illness, both events had to be canceled. Our third attempt will be held on Saturday, March 27th from 6-8 p.m. Let's cross our fingers for good weather! We'll be holding a Family Game Night and Coffeehouse event...complete with delectable desserts, coffee and hot chocolate! Enjoy playing a variety of games together and feel free to bring a favorite board/card game of your own to share! If anyone would like to entertain us with their musical talent during

the evening (light guitar, singing, etc.), we would love to hear you! This event will be free of charge, but please R.S.V.P. so that we are sure to set up enough tables and have plenty of desserts! A form will go out in early March, so watch those backpacks!

## **Auction and Cabaret**

Work on the annual Auction and Cabaret is well underway! Our SBS community is full of amazingly talented students, parents and alumni! This year our goal is to really highlight how special our school family is and share this with others outside of our community. Each year we ask each family to provide at least one item for our auction. We're bringing the topic up a bit earlier this year, so that you can begin to brainstorm! Think about special talents including artwork, photography, jewelry, pottery, sewing, crocheting, knitting, etc.--the list goes on and on! You can also think about special services you can provide, including yard work, pet sitting, cooking lessons, wood stacking,

a special meal, baking...let your imagination run wild! If you would like some ideas or feedback regarding auction items, please don't hesitate to ask. We also encourage you to invite friends and family members to this wonderful event. We always have a great time, and this year we'll have an area set up for dancing as well! We can't wait to have lots of fun together! Be sure to mark those calendars for Saturday, June 12th. We'll be starting a little bit earlier this year so that the children (and adults!) are able to get home to bed at a reasonable hour.

## **Yard Sale**

The annual Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, May 22nd. As you begin to do your spring cleaning, keep the Yard Sale in mind! Drop-off for items will be at the location on Friday. Please watch next month's newsletter for specific details. Please do NOT drop items off in the Shipping Shack! We'll fill you in on all of the specific details as we get a little closer to the date.

## **Box Tops for Education**

As always, don't forget to send in your Box Tops for Education, as well as any used cell phones! Our efforts to send these items in are improving all of the time, and it's been wonderful to reap the benefits of these simple, yet effective programs! Please join us at our next meeting, Wednesday, March 17th at 6 p.m. We look forward to seeing you!

## SBS Backpacks on Sale Now

Lightweight Sant Bani drawstring backpacks are now on sale for \$5. Emblazoned with the swan logo, these bright blue with white print ripstop nylon day packs are available at the front desk or at our Projects Café on March 10.

# Fifth Grade Voices from the January Snowshoeing Trip

by the Fifth Grade

On Wednesday, January 27 the fifth grade went on a field trip for an evening of snowshoeing. Each student wrote impressions of the trip.

I think it was fun staying after school. It was neat seeing everyone leave and go home when my class was staying at school. We had dinner, which was scrumptious. We ate salad, pasta, milk and juice.

We got on the van at about 4:30 and had a long ride, about one hour. Some of us went in David Little's van so that adults could ride on the van. We saw Loon Mountain and it was huge and all lit up.

It was dark when we got there. This is the first night trip I've been on. We were snowshoeing at Lincoln Woods Visitor's Center in Lincoln, N.H. Lincoln Woods is in The White Mountain National Forest which, in fact, belongs to you and me. That means that we pay for it with our taxes.

We finally arrived and went to a rangers' lodge. The rangers

gave us waffle-looking snowshoes and we put them on. We split into two groups and went off. What we did when we were there is go on a little hike into the woods to find some nature.

We walked for a while until our guide stopped and talked about deciduous and pine trees. Our guide told us that we were going to do a "magic eye." My group couldn't do it.

We stared at tree trunks and the part we were staring at disappeared. It was neat.

My group was lucky because we went on a suspension bridge. Shhh, don't tell the other group. My favorite part was when we went across the bridge and jumped to make it wiggle.

I don't know if any of you have ever been outside at night in the White Mountain National Forest but you should try it. It was really nice in the moonlight and it was warm out. I think a really cool thing was when we were on the walk the path looked like the headless horseman was about to go by and pass us.

The guide talked to us about what it would be like to be an animal in winter. He asked us to be really quiet and still for a little while so we could experience what it would be like for an animal all or most of their life.

When it was time to head back, we crossed the bridge again. Our guide then let us howl like wolves to try and scare the other group.

We had a race once we were close to the lodge. When we got back to the lodge we had hot cocoa and chocolate chip cookies. The ranger told us that if you steal an artifact from the national forest, you can go to jail. He told us about the history of the mountain and the laws of the mountain.

Wherever you are, you will always enjoy the woods in the winter. I know I will. I think that the field trip was lots of fun and the fifth grade should go every year. All together, it was a great trip and I really hope that the fourth grade likes it when they go, and if they don't, I know that I sure loved it.

Don't get left out of the loop--sign up for  
Sant Bani listserv!

To receive informative emails with late-breaking Sant Bani news, sign up for the Sant Bani listserv. You will be added to an email address list of members of the Sant Bani School community. To be added to this list, send an email to

**SantBaniSchool-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.**

# Upcoming Events

## Don't Miss the Projects Display and Parent Cafe March 10

Sant Bani students in grades K-12 work steadfastly on their projects during Projects Period, which required proposals, Projects Period Committee approval, revisions and then finally undertaking the projects themselves, which parents know can present unforeseen glitches.

After taking projects to the right location for their assigned K-6 or 7-12 sharing group, students present their projects orally, and many rehearse for this a number of times.

In sharing groups younger students learn from the projects and knowledge of older students, and younger students in turn impress their older schoolmates with the amount of work and learning completed.

Sharing a project can cause apprehension for some students, but the experience of oral presentation is important and confidence-building. Also, by the

end of Projects Period students have learned so much on their topic that they often enjoy teaching the teachers and older students about it.

The Projects Display is one step beyond sharing for a group of students and teachers they know because at this event students get to share to members of the wider school and local community. Projects are moved to the Studio or Library for display, and both the breadth and depth of Sant Bani projects every year is amazing.

During the display period, either before or after viewing projects, guests are invited to take in supper at the one-evening-a-year Parent Cafe in the Art Room of the Middle Building (one floor up from the Projects Display floor). Sixth graders wait tables, taking care of your every need, and families and other guests have the chance to meet other Sant Bani families.

## Coffeehouse and Family Game Night March 27, 6-8 p.m.

The Parent Committee is excited to announce that it will be hosting a Coffeehouse and Family Game Night on Saturday, March 27, from 6-8 p.m. at the school.

Families with children of all ages are encouraged to come and meet or reunite with other Sant Bani families over hot chocolate,

coffee and desserts provided by the Parent Committee. The event, food and drink are free of charge.

In addition, families will have the chance to play a number of board games that the Parent Committee will have on hand. Come and meet other school families and be ready to have fun!

## Sanbornton Public Library to Host Project Display

Our friends at Sanbornton Public Library will feature a display of Sant Bani School projects during the last half of March. School staff will select representative projects to take to the library after our projects sharing on March 10. In addition, if your child's project is well suited for a library display and you would like it included, please let Susan Dyment know so it can become part of the exhibit. We are looking for parents to help transport and set up the projects. Please call with your offer to assist in this community outreach.

## Assistant Spring Track and Field Coaches Needed

Athletic Director Chris Demian is looking for two assistant coaches for the spring track and field season, one for the high school team and one for the middle school team. Head coaches are already in place; track and field experience is helpful, but not required.

If you are interested in being an assistant coach for either team, please call Chris at 934-4240 or e-mail him at [chris@santbani.org](mailto:chris@santbani.org).

# Student Journalism

## Foods of Sant Bani

by Liam Conkling

What foods do high schoolers like? What countries do they like their food from? Do they go out or eat at home?

Doran likes Italian food because he went to Italy once and loved the food. He goes out more than eating at home and his favorite dessert is Boston Cream Pie.

Emily likes Italian food because she likes pasta and pizza. She stays at home more than she goes out to eat and her favorite dessert is chocolate cake. She helps her parents cook.

Micaela likes Mexican food and eats at home more than going out. Her favorite dessert is brownie sundae and she cooks her own food.

Luke likes Mexican food as well. He cooks his own meals more than he goes out. His favorite dessert is grasshopper pie and he helps his parents make meals sometimes.

Marc likes American food because he thinks it is the best. He doesn't go out to dinner very much and his favorite dessert is apple pie. He cooks his own food.

Adison likes Mexican food because of the spice. He eats at home more than he goes to restaurants and he likes strawberry shortcake. His parents cook for him.

Sophia likes Thai food and eats at home more than she goes out. He favorite dessert is apple pie and her parents make her meals.

I found out different people like different things, what they do and what style of foods they like. I was surprised so many people liked Mexican food.

## The History of the Sant Bani Students

by Liam Conkling and Louis Bernard

We walked around the halls asking kids some questions about why they came to Sant Bani, if they ride the bus, if they like homework and how long they have been here. We wanted to hear people's pasts.

Sophie is in ninth grade. She has been here since Kindergarten and she doesn't like homework (big surprise).

Stephanie is in seventh grade. She has been here for six years and her parents wanted her to come here and so did she. She doesn't like homework and

she is driven to school because she lives very far away.

Mohamed came here because he liked it a lot and he likes homework for the educational value. He takes the bus because it is easy.

We asked random people our questions. We asked a lot of kids our questions and we thought our answers would turn out differently. We thought no one would like homework and more people would ride the bus.

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## Lorraine Jones

by Caiden Gamble

Lorraine wants a pick-up truck. She has been working at Sant Bani for fifteen years. Her hobby is singing and writing songs. She always wanted to be a teacher. Her favorite sport is hiking. She likes Jimmy Carter because he's down-to-earth and peaceful.

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## Upper Building Snow Sculpture

by Luca Demian

Have you gone up to the upper building lately? Well if you have you would see that the third graders are working on a monument of New Hampshire. There are about seven third graders working on it. They are Ansel, Kirpal, Seth, Max, Luca, Ian and Zoli. Come and see it!

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## Health at Sant Bani

by Louis Bernard

Since I was doing an article about health there is no one better to talk with than the school health person, Linda Surowiec. So I asked her some cool health questions.

How many people have gone home this year? She said about forty kids have gone home sick.

How many people have had to go home because of a serious injury like a broken bone this year? She said three kids.

Also, how many people have had a bloody nose this year? She answered about twelve.

That is what I learned about health at our school.